

REMARKS

The Examiner objected to the drawings for failing to include the reference numeral 18 found on page 4, line 16, which indicates that the reference numeral should appear in FIG. 3. Applicant herewith encloses a substitute sheet of drawings including the correction of FIG. 3 to include reference numeral 18. This action should overcome the Examiner's objection; Applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw the objection.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable matter in claims 3, 5-11, and 13-16. Applicants are convinced that the rest of the claims, claims 1, 2, 4, and 12, are also allowable as amended and must therefore respectfully traverse the rejections set forth by the Examiner beginning page 2 of the Detailed Action. Further, new claims 17-19 focus what Applicants believe to be a salient feature of embodiments and that was recited in the claims as originally filed, but in narrower form than that to which Applicants believe they are entitled. No new matter has been entered into the file.

Applicants' invention significantly reduces sine and other errors introduced by misalignment of moving components in optical systems in the prior art. More specifically, a lens assembly supported by a plurality of bearings has an optical axis that is parallel to and coplanar with lines of travel the bearings. The optical axis and the lines of travel are also parallel with the Z-axis, as a result of which sine error in particular is substantially minimized as compared to prior art systems.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 4, and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Afshari (U.S. Patent No. 5,828,502), which rejection is traversed. Applicants note that claim 2 is not listed in the opening paragraph of the rejection, but it is clear that the Examiner intended to include claim 2 in the rejection based on the cover sheet and the body of the Office Action.

The Examiner states that the lines of travel of the bearings in the Afshari system are coplanar with the Afshari optical axis. However, this is incorrect since Afshari employs four radially-arranged bearings, the lines of travel of which lie in two intersecting planes. This renders Afshari *et al.* improper as an anticipatory reference since the reference does not disclose each and every feature of,

for example, amended claim 1. Since claims 2, 4, and 12 depend from claim 1, they and claim 1 are now allowable over the prior art of record, and the rejection can be withdrawn.

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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the subject application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Therefore, further consideration and allowance of the subject application is requested. If the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, please call Applicant's Attorney, David E. Henn at (585) 325-4618, SHLESINGER FITZSIMMONS & SHLESINGER, Rochester, New York 14604, or fax him at (585) 232-5997.

Respectfully submitted,



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